(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Dahej in Gujarat has been selected as one of the most important sites; and

(c) if so, what is the time frame in which PCPIR would be set up at Dahej?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals had initiated action for preparing a feasibility Report on setting up of Mega Chemical Industrial Estates (MCIE) in the country. The said concept has been subsumed by the policy of Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) to enable quick and coordinated decision making and to provide an appropriate policy framework for the development of investment regions of requisite scale and level of facilities, with the involvement of world class developers and investors, in the field of petroleum, chemicals and petrochemicals. The policy which has been approved by the Cabinet is to be notified. The Central Government will consider and approve applications from the State Governments for establishment of PCPIRs in terms of this policy. No time frame can be indicated at this stage.

Prices of medicines

†1996. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been sent to drugs manufacturing companies by Government for giving such medicines at half prices which are being given under the public health system;

(b) if so, the details of the said proposal; and

(c) whether the drugs manufacturing companies have given their consent on this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) In the draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006, it has, *inter-alia*, been proposed that for drugs other than those under cost based price control a ceiling price of upto 50% of MRP of the drug would be applied, for the purchase made in bulk by Central Government or States for public health requirments

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(government hospitals/health programmes, health insurance etc.) This policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GoM). A Group of Ministers has been constituted.

Profits of pharma industry

†1997. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pharmaceutical industry has become one of the maximum profit making industries in the country in the past years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the rate of average annual economic growth in this industry during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Indian Pharma Machinery Industry is estimated to be having a turnover of Rs. 2000 Crores with a growth rate of 15%. It is meeting the international standards and exports are being made to both developing and developed countries.

The growth trends in the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry indicate that the average annual growth during the last three years has also been substantial as appears from the trend given below:—

Growth in Production of Pharmaceutical Industry

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Bulk Drugs	Formulations
1	2	3
2002-03	6529.00	24185.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.